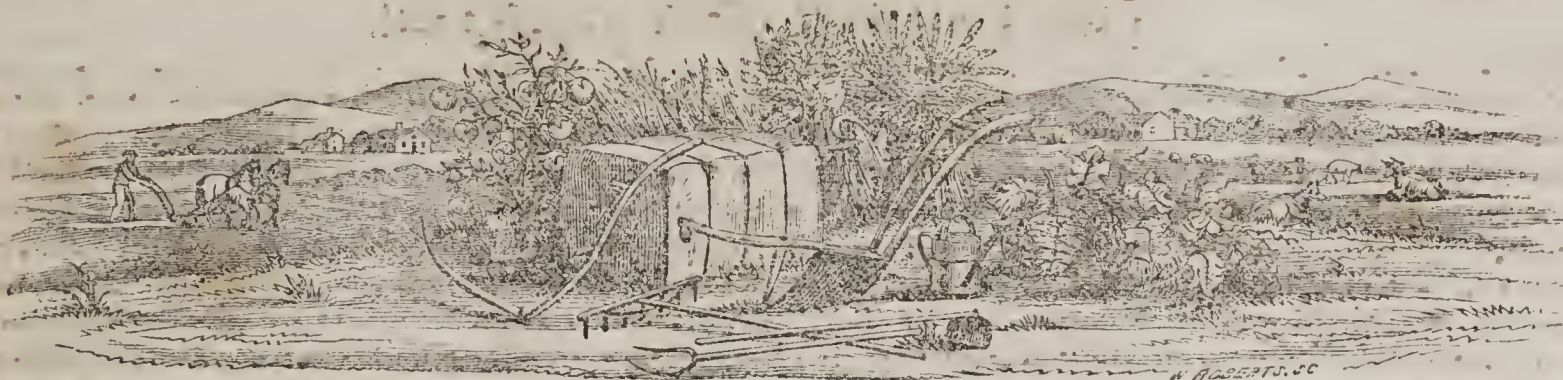


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# FARMER AND PLANTER.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, MECHANICS, DOMESTIC AND RURAL ECONOMY.

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## The Farmer and Planter

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From the Working Farmer.

### Under-Draining.

A few years since we were almost the only advocates of under-draining, except for lands which were entirely unsuited to all kinds of cultivation without the assistance of under-drains. Since that time, however, the doctrines we then collated from the experience of English and other farmers, who had used under-drains for the correction of sour soils not habitually wet throughout the year, have been admitted, and in many cases by our readers adopted, and the general usefulness of under-drains, beyond the mere removal of large masses of water, and for the improvement of soils which were but slightly too wet in spring, and not sufficiently moist in summer, is generally admitted. Indeed, there are few soils in which a proper arrangement of under-drains will not prove profitable; for influences are exercised through their means, of far

greater importance than the mere removal of surplus-water in the abstract. In answer to numerous inquiries in relation to this subject, we shall attempt to treat it quite fully, notwithstanding our former articles on the subject. We would refer to them, however, for the modes of constructing drains, proper tools to be used, kinds of tile to be selected, &c. &c. The fact that under-drains improve the qualities of the soil, and renders it capable of producing larger crops without material increase in the amount of fertilizing materials used, is now generally admitted and we therefore consider the fact established, and will only offer to account for the causes why these effects are produced.

Soils are the debris of rocks, but the decomposition is often but partial, and thus we find particles in the soil, in which are locked up, beyond the reach of the roots of plants, many materials necessary for their sustenance; and in soils requiring under-draining, this ultimate disintegration of their particles cannot proceed, from the operation of nature's laws being arrested by stagnant water resident among the particles. It not only occupies the spaces between particles, but being in a state of rest, prevents the entrance of new portions of water, charged with the necessary gases, to ensure the proper chemical actions requisite for the formation of a truly fertile soil. Manures placed on the surface of under-drained soils, are washed off at every shower. Roots cannot penetrate such soils. Soluble salts resident in the soil, such as sulphate of iron, (common copers) cannot escape, nor can they undergo chemical changes without the admission of atmosphere. Large quantities of water cannot pass down freely through the soil, and therefore these baneful materials are not washed out, whereas

when under-drained, soils containing copers will exhibit it in the water discharged until the excess of copers be removed. Cold soils by under-draining become warm and early. Every gallon of water falling through the atmosphere entering the surface of a well drained field, passes down, carrying with it a large amount of heat. Large quantities of carbonic acid gas and ammonia, washed out of the atmosphere during its descent, and those results of former vegetation which have undergone decay, are again arrested for the use of plants. The water discharged from the drain mouths is always from one to ten degrees colder than when it entered the surface of the soil, and this excess of heat is evenly divided through the mass of earth above the level of the drains. As air in a state of rest is the best non-conductor of heat, the soil remains warm, because the air resident between its particles is not in rapid motion. Each new portion of water passing down through the soil repeats these operations rendering it the storehouse of the organic constituents of the atmosphere.

Water is capable of taking up many times its bulk of several of the gases, and the condensation of the moisture of the atmosphere to form dew, necessarily causes it to fall to the earth's surface, surcharged with such gases as it may entangle with itself; but if we examine water as it issues from the drain's mouth, we find it free from these gases, and instead of fertilizing our neighbor's fields, at a lower level, with the soluble materials of our own, we pass the water toward the valleys, first retaining all articles of value received with it.

One cause of the growth of vegetables, is the ready decomposition of vegetable matter resident in the soil, such as the roots of plants &c. &c. and this should



be brought about without the formation of acetic acid; but in undrained soils this kind of decomposition is either arrested, or if in progress, produces sourness, and such proximates from vegetable decomposition as are injurious to new growths. In under-drained soils, on the contrary, the free supply of atmosphere ensures all the conditions necessary for healthful and proper decomposition beneath the surface of the soil, nor do under-drained lands suffer so severely from drought as those which are not under-drained, for the very atmosphere which can percolate the one and cannot the other, will continually deposit moisture on the surfaces of every particle of the soil. The same reasons which cause water to be deposited from the atmosphere at noon, of the hottest day in summer, on the surface of a pitcher filled with cold water, will always cause moisture to be deposited on every particle of soil sufficiently far beneath the surface to have a temperature lower than that of the atmosphere itself, and it is for this reason that under-drained subsoiled lands never suffer from drought. In early spring the under-drained portions of any farm will be found ready for cultivation. The showers of many days cannot long remain to prevent the use of the plow; the soil being always freed from excess of water will not pack so as to be impenetrable to roots. Indeed, the surface soil is undergoing continual improvement by a free condition of the subsoil, for in under-drained lands the subsoil is always so conditioned that the roots of plants can enter it, and thus bring up its inorganic constituents to supply such deficiencies to the surface soil. The very circulation of atmosphere in under-drains furnishes a continuous supply of these constituents to the superincumbent soil. We have settled this question practically to our heart's content, where half our farm is under-drained, and think before this making of the under-drains it was the poorest half, and although it has not since received any greater share of fertilizing materials than the undrained portions, still it yields us much the largest profit, and with all other conditions equal, is far earlier than the undrained part. We never suffer from drought; continued rains, or the long absence of them, produce comparatively no ill-effects on the under-drained portions. It is the last of our soils to be closed by winter frosts, and is the first to yield up its rigidity in the spring; nor are these the low lands of our farm—the under-drains run to the very hill top, and even

there the benefits are very great, as compared with the cost of the under-drains. No error is more common than to suppose that water enters under-drains during its passage downward in the soil; the portions so entering the drains are not one per cent. of the quantity which runs through them. It is after the lower pan beneath the drains is filled with water and rises to the level of the drains, that the running off commences, and they merely act to prevent this accumulation from approaching near enough the surface to interfere with the growth of plants. During long rains the water will rise nearer the surface half-way between two drains than nearer the drains themselves, and it is for this reason that drains of five feet deep and eighty feet apart are as effective as those of three feet deep and twenty feet apart. We have before given a diagram illustrative of these facts, which will be found in one of our former volumes.

To suppose that manures in a state of solution will be wasted from the mouth of under-drains, is an error, for it is impossible to filter downward in the fluid form, through any fertile soil. Even the brown liquor of the barn-yard will have all its available constituents abstracted by the soil, before it descends into the earth thirty-four inches. If this were not true, our wells would long since have become useless, the earth's surface would have become barren, and the raw materials of which plants are made, which now occupies the earth's surface and the surrounding atmosphere, would have passed towards the earth's centre; but the carbon and alumina of the soil, each of which has the power of absorbing and retaining the necessary food for plants, are the agents for the carrying into effect the necessary laws of nature for the protection of vegetable growth.

Undrained soils are not benefitted by the use of the subsoil plow, for its deep cuts are soon compacted by the action of an excess of water on the soil; but after the insertion of under-drains, the subsoil plow becomes the farmer's greatest blessing; it enables him to render his surface soil of any depth he pleases; to call on the great storehouse of his subsoil for many of its constituents of which his plants are deficient, and to send their natural agents (their roots) to collect it. They may have used from the immediate surface many constituents of which he has an inexhaustible supply in his subsoil, and thousands of acres have been supposed to be worn out, when nothing but their

immediate surfaces had been disturbed. Well subsoiled land is continually changing in color, by the amount of carbon detained in the soil from the carbonic acid gas circulating in it with the atmosphere, or brought to it from the atmosphere by the dews and rains; and after the soil has become fairly charged with this necessary and most valuable of organic ingredients, it is then, and not until then, capable of receiving ammonia, and of retaining that contained in the fertilizing materials which may be added to it. The farmer who deepens his soil from six to twelve inches, doubles the number of acres in which the roots of his crops may travel, and by this he may double his crops, while his expenses are not increased in the same ratio. Let us know to what depth a farmer plows, in well drained soil, and if his other points of management be judicious, we can judge if his business be profitable or not, from that fact alone.

#### Birds.

The shooting of small birds has become a besetting sin in many parts of our country. Their value as food is not sufficiently great to excuse either the inhumanity or impropriety of the practice. Birds are destroyers of insects, and to their destruction is to be attributed the inordinate influx of insects within the last few years. The Legislatures of New Jersey, and of many other States have passed effective laws on the subject, and we hope that farmers will not be scrupulous in using the protection furnished them by law. To see a full grown man patrolling the country, treading down crops, wasting his time and shooting small birds, each one of which is of ten times his usefulness to the body politic, is to see a selfish fool who values his own amusement higher than he does the well being of society. Such a fellow should be feathered, and this coating underlaid with tar.—*Working Farmer.*

*Longevity of Farmers.*—It appears from the Massachusetts registry of births and deaths that the duration of the lives of agriculturalists was 13 years above the general average, nearly 19 above that of common laborers, and 19 per cent. above the average age, at death, of mechanics.

*To Farmers.*—To double the crops on most farms, about all that is necessary is for our agriculturists to sell off one-half their land, and with the proceeds buy manure for the other. The larger a farm, the less a man grows to the acre.



*For the Farmer and Planter.*

**False Facts.**

MESSRS. EDITORS: We are just home from a short trip by railroad. Despite every effort of the journalist we see no reform in the management of the soil to improve its capacity for production. Satisfied as we are that there is no achievement more worthy of honest ambition than to arrest the present destruction that marks distinctly the broad landscape, or that would surround with a brighter halo, and give a more lasting and imperishable renown to the man who could bring about such a successful result. There wants reform, radical and deep. Society, our country, the world yet unborn are involved in the great question of reform. By whom shall this be undertaken? To the rising generation we look with hope. It is to you we appeal, and you must feel the necessity. Youth, ardor, zeal and devotion will alone succeed in the great work of arresting these destructive proceedings. Look on agriculture as a science, for it most assuredly is. Yes, we repeat, it is a science of calculation, combination and induction, the laws of life and organization, and all the attendant phenomena come in for a share in agricultural education, as well as the elementary matter of the earth; and all and every relation of these elements. It is to the young men of our land that we must look to for arresting the ebb and raising the tide of improvement, for the old are prone to tread in the paths of their fathers till they become bottomless, and submerged by the whelming flood of wrong doing.

When we look upon agriculture as a science we can then claim a place for it, and understand that principles govern, as in all other sciences; in a word, that principles are its beginning and end, in which facts are presented, to be studied and verified. Here, then, we may see the positive necessity for the mind to be trained by a course of education, as insisted on by "Civis," to arrange the mass of facts made known to the mind through the medium of the senses. Principles are thus elucidated, and made the unerring guide to correct practice in the great business of agriculture.

It is a primary object in any science to understand its principles. Unfortunately for the science of agriculture, it has been looked upon as having no principles, and when shown the contrary, has been contemned and denounced by minds stuffed with conceit, and crammed to the full with prejudices. Authority is set up for

truth, instead of truth for authority, often at the expense of common sense. The principles of science have to stand the test of antiquated notions, however absurd, forgetting that man is endowed with faculties which gives him power to improve and elevate his condition in the world.

The social condition of man commenced in dark ignorance and barbarism; from this state he escaped by slow degrees, from the darkness that surrounded his intellect. It is a painful struggle to break the fetters of time-honored opinions and practices, however tangled in error, or faulty.

Facts and principles alone constitute knowledge of agricultural science in common with all others. We had occasion to say some time ago that there are more false facts than false theories. To some (we had almost said to the superficial) minds this carries in its face an absurdity, but it is nevertheless a truism. What we mean by a "fact" is a simple, indivisible phenomenon, presented by a natural object, ascertained by the senses from careful observation, and attested by the experience of thousands, the same in all ages, under the same conditions, and verified by repeated experiments. These conditions must exist in any positive fact of science. False facts originate in a single case, from a single and often casual observation or incidence, which being hastily promulgated often does mischief, and fails when reduced to a practical precept." Thus a field of corn that yielded a plentiful harvest under shallow culture is a fact, but may be a false fact so far as relates to shallow culture, being a practical precept, to be followed, as a general rule of action in corn culture. Shallow plowing as a fact in corn culture should embrace the conditions as stated above, if it fails to produce the same results under reiterated trials. Shallow culture comes under our notion of false facts. We hope this will satisfy our friend "Pry."

We will now define what we mean by a principle. "The phenomena of natural bodies present common points of resemblances and dissimilarities, ascertainable by the senses, and are thus distinguishable from each other, and can be separated into various divisions, according to their different natures. All the phenomena of any department, which, in their essential circumstances, are exactly the same, have the same cause, and thus constitute but one fact, which is the first in that series of phenomena. This primary fact is, then, a generalization of innumerable facts;

in a word, the concentration of a thousand facts into one; and this general fact is a principle from which all the series of phenomena below it depend immediately or secondarily. Each phenomena is in itself an effect of one which has preceded it, and is a cause of that which succeeds to it. Phenomena in this manner form numerous series, and are capable of being expressed in formulae. These formulae are laws, and when they are completed by an exact arrangement of the phenomena, each in its proper connection, then a science has attained its perfected condition, and its practical calculations and proceedings are susceptible of application with unerring certainty."

We have thus quoted the language of one capable of making words the signs of ideas, and comes up fully to our idea of a principle.

Our design in the preceding remarks, and what is to follow, is two-fold, i. e. to answer "Pry," and to enforce on the young men of our country the necessity for the acquirement of knowledge, and a well disciplined mind preparatory to entering in the business of agriculture, which requires as broad a preparation as any other business of life. It has to do with life and matter, and embraces most of the proper objects of human knowledge. We may be asked what is knowledge? We answer, it is, appreciation of the phenomena of nature by the senses, and to determine the various relations and connections of one thing with another, verified by experiment, by observation and right construction, for different as are the forms, properties and characters of the matter and bodies, all are dependent, forming an immense extended whole. The present system (if destruction deserves the name) of agriculture is defective; and we might say false, for we have the fruits of error all around, in the vast array of water-worn sterile and gullied old fields which mar the landscape on every side. These things call aloud for reform. It is time to bring the judgment, the reason and reflection of every lover of his fellow man to bear on this paramount important question of destruction to our country. The young have the means for the acquirement of all necessary knowledge to fit them for the task of bringing about the much needed reform. It is for the bold daring of the young to shiver into fragments the present land-destroying, no-system agriculture. We think there needs no proof of the fact, as to downward tendency. It is self-evident. The sense of sight is alone



needed to verify. The matter of reform then rests on its own intrinsic merits and self-evidence.

The present improved and improving state of all sciences and arts bids to the task. The obstacles in the way are antiquated ignorance and prejudice. These must fade away before the blaze of scientific knowledge. It is for the young to elevate and dignify the profession of agriculture, by changing the loose and unmethodical practices that have and do now prevail, into a systematic and certain business, where principles guide unerringly to give form and order, and increased capacity for production to the field, the orchard and the garden. There is no standstill in nature; all is action, progressive or regressive. The pristine forest of yesterday is the unsightly and barren old field of to-day. We are lagging far in the rear of the yellow-faced Chinaman, in saving and enriching the soil. They have made progress in this the great business that sustains all others. We have been and are yet the most improvident people on the face of the earth. In the cultivation of the soil, to make cotton and destroy the land appears "our beginning, end and aim."

We hope some able pen will take up the theme and wake up the energies of the agriculturalist, to arrest the broad-spread destruction of this once fertile and beautiful faced country. Another "Civis" is wanted to point the necessity of agricultural education, to bring the wealth, the mind and energies of society to this great work. In vain are the efforts of science and art to help us on, if we fail to do our duty, and give status, at least, to the land. Every new appliance should be an incentive to improve the soil and give beauty to the form; progression should be our motto; to stand still is impossible. The writer commenced the business of agriculture late in life, but the frosts of sixty winters have not chilled our energies into entire inaction, and whatever we can do to ameliorate and restore the soil on which we live we expect to do. We are sometimes ready to give up in despair, for want of sympathy from those around, and the poverty of the soil. ABBEVILLE.

*Chinquelin Ridge, Oct. 25, 1853.*

Students at our colleges who graduate with the most show, generally exhibit the least substance in the world. They go up like a rocket, and come down down like a pancake.

Wisdom is a palace of which only the vestibule has been erected.

#### My Two Neighbors.

MR. EDITOR: Twenty years of my life having been devoted to tilling the soil (although not now engaged in farming), and moreover being of a naturally observant disposition, I sometimes flatter myself that a sight of any man's premises is to me sure index to his character. The spirit of the master, is always seen in the appearance of things on the farm over which he presides, and the economical money making farmer is as readily known by the order in which every part of his premises is kept, as by his ordinary pecuniary transaction. By the term "economical, money-making farmer," I do not mean the narrow-minded penurious man, who has not a single idea beyond the mere desire of accumulating wealth for wealth's sake; but the man who, when a proposition or suggestion is made him, weighs it well in all its different aspects, and what well matured judgment commends, that he adopts, and having adopted, enters upon its realization, with his whole soul.

Although any man of ordinary good sense may without difficulty, discriminate between the two, yet the majority will give the penurious farmer the credit of making the most money, while in fact, his liberal neighbor's income from a farm of the same size and quality of soil is nearly double.

I have two neighbors, who in point of character and disposition are perfect antipodes. Both are farmers, and both are desirous of securing a competency, and it is profitable as well as pleasant to observe, the different methods they adopt to secure their object.

Mr. A. is a shrewd observer—a man of more than ordinary intelligence, and always labors with an eye to profit. A few features about his premises will best portray his character. His dwelling is a modest looking, but well constructed and convenient building. A neat yard in front is filled with trees, at once ornamental and useful. Every tree and shrub, and plant, is made to serve the double purpose of rendering his home pleasant and profitable. The currant, gooseberry, raspberry and other fruit bearing plants, that thrive so luxuriantly around the fences (attesting the attention and skill of the owner), are all of the best varieties, and when sent to market command the best prices. The same is true of the plums, apricots and peaches that surround his dwelling.

His barn is commodious and convenient. Every part of it is arranged with an eye to the comfort and security of his stock,

and economy in their food. He has long since learned to know what grains possess the greatest fertilizing qualities—what gives strength to the muscles of his horses and oxen, and what assists most largely in the secretion of milk and promotes its richness. His barnyard is so constructed, that not a drop of liquid manure is wasted. Every kind of material possessing fertilizing qualities is carefully added to the manure heap. His fowls are not permitted to make a roosting place of the feed troughs, rack &c., but a comfortable house accommodates them, and the manure saved more than repays him for the expense of building. His fence rows are all neat and clean, and his fences in good repair. His implements are all of the most approved kinds, and as a consequence, his lands are well tilled. His fine Devon cattle are the admiration of the neighborhood and his horses and other stock of a character admirably adapted to the purposes for which they are intended. As remarked by one of your correspondents in your last number, he has "a place for every thing and every thing in its place." He is industrious and frugal, and what must follow such a methodical system as his, he is growing rich.

Neighbor B. is as industrious as neighbor A. In fact he works much harder, but with less profit. Let us glance a moment at his farm. His dwelling is a plain structure but wholly devoid of taste. His paling fence is fast going to ruin. The pigs and chickens are aware of the fact, and have free ingress to the front yard where a few stunted trees and shrubs continue to prolong their feeble existence. Not a flower adorns the place. The house the appearance of which a coat of whitewash would greatly improve, presents a dirty forbidding aspect. If you visit his barn, you will find here and there parts of the weather-boarding torn off. Others, which the driving of a nail would save are ready to follow. Here, as in the front yard, the chickens have full sway. His horses are not remarkable for strength or beauty, nor could it be expected they should. He never feeds too strong for fear of injuring them. His old style of "horse killing" plows, and other implements aid him very materially in his efforts to keep his horses from growing too fat. He rises at day-break, and is in the field before the sun, nor does he leave it till it has sunk below the western horizon. His stables are badly ventilated and his manure is wasting day by day. His cows, for want of proper attention and food, yield but a scanty quantity of milk.



His fence rows abound in noxious weeds, and every year the nuisance is becoming greater. All this improvidence, the reader will perhaps be ready to attribute to carelessness. Not so. If you were to endeavor to persuade him that it would be true economy to repair the piling fence, nail up the weather-boarding, or clean his fence rows, he would tell you that he knows it should be done, but he has *not time* to attend to it. He conceives that economy in farming consists, not in giving attention to such small matters, but in devoting all his time to the large operations of the farm, forgetful of the fact that while with his unwieldy implements and incessant demands upon the services of his horses, he is fast wearing away their strength and usefulness, his neighbor A. performs an equal amount of work, although he does not go to the field for an hour after Mr. B. A prefers that his horses should have time to eat, well knowing their superior strength and vigor in consequence, will enable him to do more work before the day is over than his penurious neighbor B; besides which his implements are all of the latest improved kinds, and save not only his horses but much valuable time. B is fully aware of the superiority of A's implements but his penuriousness induces him to cling to the old ones so long as they can be made to answer his purposes, however badly. In many other points, there are discrepancies in the character of these two men. I might advert to their crops, their mode of plowing, seeding, harvesting, &c., but enough has been said to answer the object I had in view in troubling you with this communication, viz: an earnest desire to impress upon the minds of the younger readers of the Farm Journal, the importance, of not merely economy and industry, but of *methodical* economy. My earnest desire is, that the minds of young men may be thoroughly impressed with the necessity of familiarizing themselves, not merely with the physical details of farming, but that they will also apply themselves to those branches of study which stand in intimate alliance with their daily pursuits. My neighbor A, by habits of close study and observation, has fitted himself to pass tolerably correct judgment upon the merits of a new theory or a new implement; while neighbor B, in a spirit of false economy discards every thing new, and clings to the old system with a pertinacity in this age of progress, rather astonishing. The one is reaping his reward of his observation and *true* economical spirit, in increased wealth; while the other is realizing a bare subsistence, at the expense of his own and the strength of his horses—the value of his farm stock, and the fertility of his soils.—*Farm Journal.* E. A. P.

## Zinc Paints.

We are glad to find this new article coming into very general use wherever it can be obtained. Some of its principal merits are thus summed up in one of the Circulars of the company engaged in manufacturing it:

The following facts, which are the result of accurate experiment, show that Zinc Paints are much cheaper to the consumer than Lead:

100 lb. White-Zinc Paint will cover, when applied in three coats, on new work, as much surface as 166½ lb. pure White Lead; but, estimating that it will cover but fifty per cent. more surface, and that it sold at the same price per pound as pure White Lead, then the cost would be just two-thirds the cost of Lead; to say nothing about the durability and beauty of Zinc Paints.

This argument (their relative cheapness) alone should decide the question in favor of the use of Zinc Paints; but their other merit are of more importance.

White Zinc is entirely free from poisonous properties. Lead, in all its preparations, is known to be destructive of health, and often of life.

White Zinc, even when exposed to coal gas, bilge water and sulphurous vapors, retains its original brilliancy and whiteness: White lead quickly turns yellow.

White Zinc is inodorous. Occupied houses may be painted with it, without annoyance to the inmates from the offensive smell of paints.

Apartment, *just painted*, may be slept in with impunity; whereas, according to the best authorities, rooms should not be used for sleeping apartments for two or three months after being painted with Lead.

The agents of the company have issued the following directions for using it:

The Paints manufactured by the N. J. Zinc Co., and ground in Oil, are to be used precisely like White lead, thinning it for outside work with light colored Linseed Oil and for inside use with Spirits of Turpentine or Oil, having enough sicative mixed with the Paint in the keg to make it dry in 24 hours. In winter a small quantity of Zinc Dryer, or any of the ordinary dryers, may be added.

FOR PORCELAIN FINISH.—Thin the Zinc, ground in varnish, with enough Damar Varnish to make it work free, and apply it only upon a *pure white ground*, recently painted with Zinc and thoroughly dried. If the first coat does not produce a sufficient gloss, apply a second.

On new inside work, it is recommended

to apply first a coat of Gum Shellac, to prevent the sap or pitch of the wood from staining the paint, made as follows: To 1 gallon alcohol, add about 2 lbs. Gum Shellac; dissolve by a gentle heat, then add about 2 lbs. dry White Zinc, and strain before using. It will dry in five minutes, and will pay the cost of its application, by the saving of paint in finishing the work.

WHITE ZINC PAINTS should be kept in a dry place, and never be covered with water in the keg, as it will cause the paint to harden.

Fifty lbs. of Zinc will cover as much surface as 70 to 90 lbs. of lead, according to the nature of the surface and style of work.

The paints ground in oil, are put up in kegs of 25, 50, 100, 200, and upwards.

Ground in Varnish, in cans of 10 to 25 lbs. each.

Dry white Zinc in barrels of 200 lbs. each.

## PRICES.

No. 1, or Snow White, ground in Oil, per lb.	9 cents.
No. 2, or Silver White ground in Oil, per lb.	8 "
Brown Stone Color ground in oil, per lb.	6 "
Brown Zinc, ground in oil, per lb.	5 "
White, ground in varnish for Porcelain finish.	15 "
No 1, or Snow white in bbls. of 200 lbs.	6½ "
Zinc Dryer, per gallon.	1.50 "
Damar varnish (White Varnish) per gallon.	1.75 "

These paints may be obtained of Manning and Squire, No. 45 Dey Street, New York.

*For Pickling Eggs.*—If the following pickle were generally known it would be more generally used. It is an excellent pickle to be eaten with cold meat, &c. The eggs should be boiled hard, (say ten minutes) and divested of their shells; when quite cold put them in jars, and pour over them vinegar (sufficient to quite cover them) in which has been boiled the usual spices for pickling. Tie the jars down tight with bladder, and keep them until they begin to change color.

*Corn Fertilizer.*—As the time is drawing near for planting Corn, I consider it very important that Farmers should be acquainted with the best mode of preparing seed corn for planting. The mode I have practised for several years, with great success, is, immediately before depositing the seed in the ground, to mix two quarts of soft soap with half a bushel of seed corn; after that is done, put a good supply of Plaster with the above, and mix well together. Plant the corn with as little delay as possible afterwards.

GEO. WALKER.



**Marriage.**

The institution of marriage is, one of the wisest in the arrangement of Providence. In no one of the judicial laws for the perpetuity and happiness of the race, has the Deity exhibited greater wisdom than in that of instituting marriage between the sexes.

The division of the race into families, where equal and join interests obtain, where each necessarily cares for and feels for the other, is marked by divine wisdom and is a source of the highest human happiness and felicity. Marriage is honorable it is desirable. We are so constituted that we naturally engage in it. We have affections. They must have an altar at which to bow—a shrine at which to worship; and what altar or shrine more pure or holy than those of plighted love? The desire to marry is innate. The Poet has it thus:

'The heart like a tendril, accustomed to cling,  
Let it go where it will, cannot flourish alone;  
But will lean to the nearest and loveliest thing;  
It can twine to itself, and make closely its own.'

It has been ascertained, by an analysis of 24,000 marriages in Massachusetts, that an unmarried female at the age of 20 has lost one-fourth of her chances of ever becoming united in wedlock, at 25 three-fourths, and at 30 nine-tenths. Still this is no good reason, why hasty and improper connections should be formed. A female at 25, is far more likely to marry well, than at an early period. Her judgment is more mature; she will be governed less by fancy, and more by common sense, and instead of taking to a dashing young coxcomb, or pert dandy, will prefer a man of more years than herself, who has become established in business—has experience—has character and prospects of success in navigating the sea of life.

No man should marry until he has a competence to give a family a support. In portions of Germany this is actually required by the laws of the land.

Solid acquirements, and amiability of heart and disposition, should weigh more in the mind of the female, when about to give her hand in marriage, than mere show of person and polish of address. I care not if there be considerable disparity of ages, provided other things are equal. I would much rather a daughter of mine would marry a person 20 years older than herself, if he possessed character, influence, goodness, and means of support, united with warm attachment, than to start off in life with some dashing young man, with more show than brains, and far less affection than romantic love.

True and solid virtues are the only foundation for abiding affection; where these exist, they form a basis as enduring as iron, and as lasting as granite.

There is no higher or more tranquil bliss, than that experienced when heart communes with heart—when two souls unite and form one, like mingling dew-drops on a rose, that scarcely touch the flower, but mirror the heavens in their little orbs.—When perfect love transforms two souls each to the other's image—when one heart beats in two bosoms—one spirit speaks with a divided tongue—when the same soul is eloquent in mutual eyes—there is a rapture, deep, serene, heart-felt and abiding, in that mysterious sympathy between congenial souls, which puts to shame the extatic but short-lived bliss of romance.

But to the hearts united by virtuous affections, there comes that glad reliance, that sense of trust, that rest of spirit, that exceeding peace, which words cannot portray, which to know is to feel.

A superiority of years in the husband strikes us as most befitting. His position as head of the family—his charge and oversight of all its interests—the stern necessity that he shall have lived long enough in the world to have profited by experience—all conspire to teach this doctrine—to maintain this sentiment. He is the oak and she the vine and it is of importance that the former be well grounded in experience, and have sufficient age and strength to allow the latter to wind around and lean for support on its manly trunk; and what matters, it has lived to share in some rude storms, and lost some of its pristine beauty, its true value is none the less, but on the other hand somewhat enhanced.

"What is the blooming tincture of the skin,  
To peace of mind and harmony within?  
Not the bright sparkling of the finest eye,  
To the soft soothing of a calm reply?  
Can comeliness of form, or shape or air,  
With comeliness of words, or deeds compare?  
No! those at first the unwary heart may gain,  
But these, these only, can the heart retain."

A PARENT.  
*Phrenological Journal.*]

PIN STICKER.—Dr. Crosby, of this city, one of our most ingenious and successful dentists, has been granted a patent on his machine for sticking pins on paper. It is the most human piece of mechanism that has ever come under our observation. Attached to the pin-maker, and driven by water or steam, the pin falls into a hopper, by the bushel, and is most rapidly and regularly stuck into paper, the machine doing its own counting!—*New Haven Register.*

An old foggy is one who rides on the tail end of progress and cries wo!

**The past Year—Provisions—Improvement in Agriculture, &c.***For the Farmer and Planter.*

MESSRS. EDITORS: The year has just faded away into the night of time—with all its casualties, it is gone! but the plans of providence ever preponderate in the scale of mercy—the brazen sky that threatened haggard famine, melted away into genial showers, and the industrious farmers are now blessed with plenty of . . .

"Good bread and good drink, a good fire in the hall,

Sausages and souse, and good pigs' feet withall.  
Beef, mutton and pork, mince pies of the best,  
Pig, veal, goose and chickens, and turkeys well dressed.

With plenty big 'taters and gooders to crack;  
Plenty corn in the crib and blades in the rack.  
Good bacon well salted to last all the year,  
And thus are good farmers' blessed with good cheer,

There is no feeling of our nature we cherish with more pleasure than a consciousness of independance of public favor for the bread we eat. This the farmer who works out his destiny of "earning his bread by the sweat of his brow," feels in all its meanings. Political aspirants, and office hunters, while seeking the favors of the beloved people, have to smile, and bow, and stoop, and show a deference to the world that often galls their spirit. Traders and professional men elbow and push each other in rivalry and jealousy.—Not so with the farmer—he has nothing to apprehend from the success of his neighbor. The farmer is out of the way of those collisions of interests that agitate the city in struggles for mastery, rousing up the worst passions of our nature—the world of necessity purchase his wares, for which he thanks them not—subsistence they must have, and the farmer knows it.

The business of the farmer with all its casualties suffers as little real loss, as any other business of life. The season that blights one kind of crop, is often congenial to another. Risks are so divided that an entire failure rarely happens. The farmer is brought in relation with nature's workings, and a difficult season is often a real blessing to the intelligent mind. Pitt, of England, said, "that in twenty four years of farming on a considerable scale, he always made the most money in what was called difficult seasons." The farmer's dependence is on a beneficent providence, which cares for all her creatures, and dispenses her blessings in prodigal profusion. This should ever open his soul to that religion which teaches an observance of the commandments, and implicit faith in an all-ruling providence, who has prom-



ised bread to the sower—seed-time and harvest to the end of time. Agriculture and horticulture have a tendency to expand the mind, give scope and extension to our rational pleasures, giving an inexhaustible fund of amusement in the contemplation of the economy of nature in the ever varied forms of plant and animal—to see the winter bound bud under the moving influence of spring time, flashed as it were into fragrance and beauty of coloring, brings the mind to contemplate and observe the vital movements of sap, and inorganic elements being worked up into the fragrance and beauty of the flower, and then into the juicy pericarp of the peach, the cherry and the plum. No wonder that lovely woman should be spell bound to her flowers, for they are in harmony with her nature—reflections of what her own pure nature should be.

The faculty of increasing the productions of nature and also of increasing the capacity of the soil for production, belongs alone to man, he alone of all animated nature does this, and this at once elevates him above the bestial world. There is, as it were, granted to the intelligence and industrial energies of man a power of creation, nor have we reached the limits to success if our labors are properly applied. With all the acknowledged progress in the world, there is a vast field yet before us in our country, we have to arrest wrong doing, and stay destruction of our land. We invoke not patriotism to the task, though this motive has been called into activity on far less important occasions. Nor does this motive govern in the masses of mankind. We are contented if we can arouse self interest to the work. We think this should be sufficient inducement. Self interest then if properly directed should accomplish much, we might say as much as if swayed by any higher feeling. This improvement of the soil—rendering comfortable and beautiful our homes; is a theme to which our pen is prone to wander, for we see, we feel its claims. In the great plan of improvement all may join, even those possessed of the smallest plot of ground for a garden, may improve its capacity for production and the qualities of its products, adding this to common stock of a knowledge of floral beauties and cultivated plants—even on the smallest spot may knowledge grow, and health of mind and body result. Many productions of more southern climes may be naturalized, and be thus made to add to our pleasures, and gratification of taste. Let every one who has a plot of ground

begin the work; beautify and improve around your dwellings; let ornament and utility go hand in hand; let your children associate with this order, arrangement, and beauty, and the influences will be felt in days that are to come. If you have but a cabin let cleanliness and order and comfort mark the spot, turn all unsightly matters into a fertilizing agent to feed plant, shrub, or tree—the doctor's bill will be less at the end of the year, and a love of home will be augmented—drive the noisome weed and the cause of pestilence from around you, and fill its place with grateful fruit or flower—let the grog-seller swallow his own poison—plant and cultivate as a duty of life, and plenty will bless your efforts. Life is short and there is much to do, then we say begin the new year in earnest, determined to make one in the great work of improvement. Dread not the summer's sun or cloudless sky, an all-caring providence will do his part—do thine and the end of the year will be crowned with plenty.

To the farmers we would say a few words at the beginning of a new year.—That agriculture needs reform is, as our friend Simpkins would say “a fixed fact.” To do this requires an enlightened and sober calculation, to be persisted in, unmoved by sneers, prejudices and obstinacy of the willful land-killer, who will ever throw obstacles in the way of all improvement, because they are innovations, from his or his grandfathers non-systematic, no-principle way of doing things. Now there is an adage some where, that nothing great is ever achieved by following the beaten track. There are some men among us “who see with their eyes” and are setting spirited examples of reform and management, but alas! the masses are still blundering along as their fathers did, so do they, rejecting every scheme for improvement, as visionary and worthless, and even neglect their improvements after their value has been tested and verified.

Thus we see many to day who repudiate a guard ditch with as much obstinacy, as did the man who was plowing with four at length, when the Duke of Bedford got out of his carriage and yoked them two in a breast, and plowed them himself, explaining the great advantages of this method; but the fellow was not to be driven out of daddy's way of plowing, by this much easier and more economical way, though the Duke of Bedford said he was wrong, and he just told the Duke the new fangled way might answer with his Grace, but was too expensive for him.—

This is a portraiture of many who, to day, invariably are pursuing the same routine learned in boyhood, they drive four at length, with satisfied obstinacy, though it is opposed to their own interests and the general welfare. Labour saving machines have been opposed on the same principles. Sir Walter Scott in the tales of my landlord, has given us a good humored account of the reception of the winnowing machine into Scotland, about the year 1710, where a mother remonstrates with a lady on account of the steward having ordered her son to fan the wheat in the barn with the winnowing machine. “Your leddyship, and the steward, has been pleased to propose that my son, Cuddie, sould work in the barn wie a new fangled machine, for dighiting the corn frae the chaff, thus impiously thwarting the will of divine providence, by raising wind for your ladyship's ain particular use by human airts, instead of soliciting it by prayer, or waiting patiently for whatever dispensation of wind providence was pleased to send upon the sheeling-hill.

Much as we admire the veneration of the “gude mithter,” and her counsel for pious dependance on the dispensation of divine providence, we think it just put in the wrong place; but we hardly think our no ditching neighbors so piously inclined as to cause them to refuse to guard ditch their land for fear of thwarting providence, by causing the water to get to the bottom of the hill by a more circuitous route, with less damage to the land. We have no intention to slander them at all, but we think it arises from ignorance of physical laws, deep-rooted prejudice, utter carelessness or indifference about the matter. We would advise every farmer to set about this all important work. Blot out from the landscape the unsightly, ragged gully, let your drain ditches mark with utility, that you care for your land, which is your interest.

We intended to have had a little talk with our brother farmers on neglected fertilizers, but that spirited writer Broom-sedge, has done the matter up right—hear him then, and profit by his writing, he has given you knock-down hints.

I fear, Messrs. Editors, Abbeville has become tiresome to editors and readers.\* We promise now to be done for some time. Abbeville would here in the close present a big bundle of thanks to “Agricola,” of the Mercury, for his spirited good sense, in his articles headed “agricultural science.” The theme is worthy, and we would say to him write on, nor wait for “abler pens” nor ever stop ‘till the battle

\*Not so, friend Abbeville, with the former we are quite certain, nor with the latter we opine. We feel under obligations not soon to be cancelled, to Abbeville and other friends who have so nobly sustained us in our humble and unpretending exertions in the good cause. May their shadows never grow less. We have not yet given up the ship nor will we as long as we have such friends to back us or a “shot in the locker.” —Eds. F. & P.



is won. Let every leaver be applied to elevate agriculture into a science, and its votaries to their true position in the social scale. We thus bid adieu to the Farmer and Planter for this year, and hope another year will find it in all the strength of manhood, enjoying a happy new year.

ABBEVILLE.

Chinquapiñ Ridge, S. C., 1853.

### Proceedings of the Pendleton Farmers' Society.

FARMERS' HALL, PENDLETON, }  
October 13, 1853. }

The Pendleton Farmers' Society met this day, it being the anniversary of the Society. The following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Dr. H. C. MILLER, President.

ELAM SHARPE, Esq. V. P.

W. H. D. GAILLARD, Esq., S. & T.

Maj. GEORGE SEABORN, Cor. Sec.

Adjourned to meet to-morrow.

OCTOBER 14, 1853.

The Pendleton Farmers' Society met this day according to adjournment. The President having appointed the committees to award the different premiums, the society adjourned for the purpose of allowing the committees to examine and make out their reports. When the Society met again the committees made the following reports:

The committee on Red Clover report that no experiment on Red Clover was reported. The chairman of the committee could have made a fair report on the culture of Clover, which he has paid some attention to for several years past, and which have been reported in the Farmer and Planter, but believing that some of his neighbors could make a more favorable report the present year, has declined doing so.

G. SEABORN, Chairman.

The committee on Agricultural Implements regret exceedingly that on a subject of so much importance to the agricultural improvements of our country—only two articles were exhibited, Emery's seed planter by Mr. Sharpe, and an ox yoke by Maj. Seaborn's slave. The seed planter is an ingenious piece of machinery, and the superiority of drill over broadcast culture is too obvious to need any recommendation. They recommend a premium of one dollar be paid to each of the exhibitors for the said seed planter and ox yoke.

They would beg leave to urge on the members of the society the importance and necessity of improvement in agricultural implements, and they do hope that at our next anniversary meeting this department will be crowded with competitors.

R. A. MAXWELL, Chairman.

The committee on Mules report that they have examined several very fine Mules, and found great difficulty in determining to which the premium should be awarded. Mr. Crawford exhibited a very powerful and well grown mule,

three years old. Mr. L. Verner exhibited one 20 months old, very large indeed. Mr. Keys exhibited one 14 months old, also large and well formed. Mr. Whitworth exhibited one 3 months old, very promising, and Mr. Reid exhibited one 14 months old, also fine and large. All things considered, your committee award the premium to Mr. L. Verner for the best Mule.

J. T. SLOAN, Chairman.

The committee on Boars and Sows report that they award the premium to Mr. D. J. Barnett for the best Boar—no sow offered.

J. W. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

The committee on Bulls and Cows report that they have had the pleasure of examining a Bull, the property of Mr. A. F. Lewis, 4 years old, of the Devon and Durham breeds on native stock. He has good size and make, and we award him the premium.

J. W. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

The committee on Jacks and Jennets have examined a Jack of Mr. B. J. Maxwell's 2 years old, a very fine animal, and award him the premium; also a Jennet belonging to the same, 18 months old, by an imported Jack, good size and make, and award her the premium.

J. W. CRAWFORD, Chairman.

The Committee on Oxen report that they have examined 3 yoke of oxen, and award the premium to Mr. A. F. Lewis for the best yoke.

W. R. CALHOUN, Chairman.

The committee on Mares report that they have examined several, one offered by Mr. Gillison, a fine Mare, 5 years old; also a pair of Mares by Mr. Sloan, very fine, and award them the premium.

W. L. JENKINS, Chairman.

The committee on Rams and Ewes report that they have examined a Ram and Ewe belonging to Mr. Latta, to whom they award the premium.

WILLIS ROBINSON, Chairman.

The committee on Fowls report that they have examined 3 coops, one of Games, by Mr. A. F. Lewis, one of Malays, by Mr. Reid, and one of Shanghaes, by Mr. Shanklin. The committee deem each coop a specimen of superior Fowls of their kind, and award a premium of one dollar to each breed.

W. L. JENKINS, Chairman.

The committee on Discretionary Premiums report that they have examined all articles falling under their notice, and beg leave to call the favorable notice of the Society to a specimen of Alabama Wheat exhibited by Mr. D. J. Barnett, which weighed 67 pounds to the bushel. Said wheat was grown on old upland, in cultivation 12 years without manure. We award a premium of two dollars to Mr. Barnett for his wheat.

They also report a half-blood Durham calf, 15 months old, raised by Maj. J. D. Wright, for which we award him a premium of two dollars.

Also a heifer calf, 18 months old, raised by Major Simpson, from the Holstein stock, for which we award him a premium of two dollars.

They have also examined an ingenious specimen of manufacture, two quilts, by Mrs. Wright and Miss Harriet Maxwell, and award a premium of two dollars each.

Also a premium for a pair of richly embroidered slippers, by Miss Rosa Weyman.

Also a premium of one dollar to Mr. D. J. Barnett, for a bottle of superior black writing ink.

Beautiful specimens of dahlias, roses and other flowers have been examined.

W. A. HAYNE, Chairman.

W. H. D. GAILLARD, Secretary.

### The Tree is Known by its Fruits.

It costs no more to grow 100 barrels of good apples or 50 barrels of Bartlett or Seckel pears than it does the same quantity of insipid fruit. We have had reason to thank some of our friends more than once during this autumn, for gifts of fine fruit, and the only wonder to our minds has been that we had not found it necessary to do it oftener—in fact we would have been pleased to have headed a weekly editorial in that way.

It is strange, that in a climate so admirably adapted to fruits of all sorts, with soils too of every variety, that people should continue to raise sweetening apples and choke pears, at a cost as great as would produce the most luscious fruit. Our facilities for transporting every thing we grow, from a bale of cotton to a chinquapiñ, are fast coming in sight of us. The first marks of the rail road have been made amongst us, and now, at the very outset, is the time to begin reform. Let every farmer look around among his neighbors for the best apples and peaches, and begin to plant an orchard at once—don't put it off till next year—till you have more time, or have a better piece of ground, or till you buy a new place, or because you expect to sell the old one, but begin right where you are and plant something, and do it in the right way. It's just as easy to plant a good tree as a bad one, and cheaper in the long run to do it well than ill. The Gully apple, and the Limber Twigg, are familiar to most persons. They are all fine apples—good keepers and native—to the manor born. The red and white crabs are common and capital fruits, while, doubtless, many even better varieties of winter and summer fruit can be picked up in our own section ready acclimated. This the 6th day of October, we have a plum peach before us weighing 8 oz., as luscious and juicy as an August big Isaac. It makes one's mouth water to think of it, so we will not dwell upon the subject. But set about planting an orchard; by the time you get it in good bearing condition your railroad will be ready to transport your fruit to market.

When the farmers about New York be-



gan to plant orchards, every croaker cried out that the market would be glutted with fruit, how is it—Mr. Pell, from a small farm, is annually netting \$4,000 by sales of apples alone. One man, Mr. Reybold of Del., keeps two steamboats to take his fruit to market. The freight for one day last summer, over the Amboy Railroad, for peaches alone, amounted to \$1100. While 90,000 baskets of strawberries were sent from New Jersey across one road in a day, and whole car loads of blackberries, and whartleberries. Dont clear up all the briar patches, "a good time is coming boys," when dimes will be plenty as blackberries.—*Unionville Journal*.

#### Statistics Again.

We have been surprised, says a distinguished Northern gentleman, to find that South Carolina grows more than three times as much wheat as Alabama, and six times as much as Mississippi. By the last census

South Carolina grew	1,066,277, bus.
Alabama,	294,044, "
Mississippi,	137,990, "
Georgia,	1,088,534, "

It will be seen that Georgia, although it boasts of being the empire State of the South, produces very few bushels more than the comparatively small State of South Carolina. It is doubtless surprising to a Northern gentleman that anything good can come out of South Carolina, and it must be particularly so to one who, only a few years ago called her the State of empty resolutions, a rotten borough aristocracy, &c. We are pleased to see an increasing desire daily springing up among our farmers, to extend the area of grain culture. The constantly increasing facilities, which will be offered by our railroads, will enable us to find a ready market, at remunerating prices, for all kinds of grain. There is no danger of over-doing the business, as some wisacres are always predicting. In New York although the greatest wheat market in the world, the article always ranges from 1.00 to 1.50 per bushel, and one of her counties, Monroe, produces more wheat than any of the States above named. Wheat is better adapted to the purpose of amelioration than almost any money crop we can cultivate. Manure your cotton highly—put your cotton seed upon the wheat, and then give a year's rest.

But we should be more careful in the selection of our seed, good merchantable wheat should be free from cockle, cheat and all impurities. We have one great advantage over the North, we have no

garlic to annoy us, no fears of winter killing, and comparatively few insects. We have come to the conclusion that it is pernicious practice this, of introducing Northern seeds amongst us, we believe many of the insects, weeds and pests, that have made their appearance among us of late years, came in that way. One cannot be too cautious about such things—it is well to begin in time. An oz. or so of garlic might play the mischief—a few nuts of the black coco or seeds of the means grass, in a box of shrubs or flowers, keep you digging all the rest of your life.

We have plenty of seeds and fruits of the best varieties, admirably adapted to our own climate, and anything North, East, or West, provided we would take the proper pains to select and improve them. As long as we trust to luck, the case will be no better.

#### Proceedings of the Laurens Agricultural Society.

*Held at Laurens C. H., on Wednesday, 7th ult.*

The Anniversary Meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday last, according to previous notice, at the railroad depot lot in this village, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

The President, Dr. J. W. Simpson, called the society to order and appointed the following committees, in addition to those formerly appointed by the Executive Committees.

On Buggies—J. Teague, Esq. L. K. Teague, and J. C. Miller.

On domestic Productions—James Creswell, J. M. Young, W. Philson, Col. P. L. Calhoun, C. P. Sullivan, M. Shaw, Esq., S. Flemming and Rev. Z. L. Holmes.

On motion the Society adjourned to the Court House to inspect the domestic productions on exhibition, and to give time to the committees to perform their several duties.

The appointed hour (11 o'clock) having arrived, the President introduced Dr. J. H. Davis, the anniversary orator, who delivered a very able and instructive address.

On motion of Mr. C. B. Stewart, it was unanimously

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Society are due Dr. J. H. Davis, for this most excellent address, and that a copy be requested of him for publication in the Southern Agriculturist, Farmer and Planter and Laurensville Herald.

The following premiums were awarded:

- To W. R. Smith, for the best Stallion.
- Dr. J. W. Simpson, for the best Bull.
- J. G. Williams, for the best Cow.
- Capt. E. Paslay, for the best sucking calf.

Fuller, Wright & Co., for the best Jack.

S. D. Garlington, for the best boar.

J. D. Williams, for the best 2 year old colt.

Dennis Hill, for the best 1 year old colt.

I. P. Jacks, for the best sucking colt.

C. D. Barksdale, for the best 2 year old mule colt.

W. D. Watts, for the best 1 year old mule colt.

A. Coleman, for the best sucking mule colt.

J. D. Williams for the best sheep.

H. W. Anderson for the best Shanghai fowls.

J. D. Williams, for the best China and imported Hamburgs.

J. C. Hill for the best sample of wheat.

G. W. Shell, for the best plow.

J. D. Williams for the best fleece of wool.

Allen Dial, for the best barrel of flour.

E. Hix, for the best buggy.

The Committee on Domestic Productions award the following premiums:

To Miss Emma E. Denton, 2 best ottomans.

Miss Sarah A. Anderson, best quilt.

Miss Martha Carter, best spread.

K. C. Stewart, best piece domestic cloth.

Miss Drass, " " " cloth, Pink

Miss C. F. Simpson, best child's hat.

Miss S. N. Williams, best embroidered Vest Pattern,

Miss M. E. Williams, 2 best ottoman covers.

Miss C. F. Simpson, best lamp matt.

" " " " " ladies' collar.

Miss E. J. Fairbairn, best pair silk mittens. The silk raised by Miss F. in this District.

Mrs. E. M. Shaw, best infant's sack.

Miss Pelote, best paper basket.

Mrs. Dr. E. M. Bobo, best domestic rug.

Miss Mary Williams, best butter.

Mrs. E. M. Bobo, best loaf light bread.

Mrs. E. M. Bobo, best feather fan.

Mrs. Susan W. Simpson, fine painting.

Mrs. A. P. Simpson, best oil painting.

On motion of P. L. Calhoun, a committee of fifteen was appointed to attend the



Convention of the slaveholding States, to be held in Columbia, in December next. The chair appointed the following: Col. P. L. Calhoun, C. F. Sullivan, Capt. Geo. Andersen, Col. J. Hudgens, Dr. R. E. Campbell, J. Wistar Simpson, J. M. Young, Col. J. H. Irby, Col. J. D. Williams, Rev. C. B. Stewart, Dr. G. H. Waddell, Dr. W. Wright, Rev. Z. L. Holmes, Dr. J. H. Davis and M. Shaw.

On motion, the President, Dr. J. W. Simpson was added.

On motion of W. T. Watts, the chair appointed a committee of five to classify stock and arrange premiums for the next annual exhibition. Messrs. W. D. Watts, Col. J. D. Williams, G. W. Sullivan, Col. H. W. Garlington and J. H. Irby were appointed.

On motion, the present officers were re-elected to serve the ensuing year.

On motion, the Executive Committee was requested to select the Anniversary Orator for the next year.

On motion of Col. J. D. Williams, the next anniversary exhibition be held at this place, on the last Wednesday in September, 1854.

On motion of Rev. C. B. Stewart, the proceedings of this meeting was ordered to be published in the *Southern Agriculturist*, *Farmer and Planter*, and *Laurensville Herald*.

On motion, the Society adjourned.

J. W. SIMPSON, *Pres.*

R. M. STOKES, *Sec'y.*

(Speech of Dr. Davis in our next.)

*For the Farmer and Planter.*

#### Deep and Surface Culture.

Messrs. Editors: We have had, in some of your last numbers; quite an animated discussion by Pry and Abbeville, on a very interesting subject, deep and shallow culture; and I hope they are not done with it yet, and that Pry will redeem his promise to pursue the subject in connection with a proper rotation of crops. I could have wished to have seen the discussion less personal, and conducted less with an aim for victory. The end of all discussion, especially in an agricultural journal, should be truth. I could have wished, also, that Pry had not started the subject as one altogether new; but that does not matter much. Abbeville, it seems to me, has not met the question fairly, which I regret. But it is not my design to provoke a controversy with either of them, nor even to enter into the argument itself. My design is to give my own experience, and it may go for what it is worth. For many years I have believed in preparing by deep and thorough plowing before planting, and afterwards in so cultivating as to cut the roots as little as possible. As far back as 1842 this subject was discussed in the *Carolina Planter* by "S.," "A Young Planter," and "Laurens" for, and "Cedar Creek" against. And for the last 6 or 8

years I have been cautiously and watchfully putting my faith to the test of practice.

My lands are mostly a grey, light soil. I break them up deeply with a scooter or bull-tongue in the winter. About the first of March I lay off the rows for corn horizontally, 5 feet apart; also with a scooter furrow, and run round this at the distance of about a foot with the same instrument, all deeply. I do this not only to have my lands thoroughly broken, but also to have time to have the horizontalizing done, and to be at liberty to attend to the droppers and coverers when planting, a matter of much importance. In planting, the centre furrow is opened with a shovel, and the corn covered with two small scooter furrows, thus splitting the ridge left on each side, and making one over the corn. After the cotton crop is planted, and when the corn is well up, I cut off this ridge with the hoe, and with it the young grass and weeds. Some 10 or 12 days after this hoeing I give it a deep plowing—scooter next the corn and finish with the shovel—deep, now, because the roots have not yet spread themselves. In about 20 days I give a shallow plowing with the shovel, throwing dirt enough to the corn to cover the young grass. In about 20 days more I "lay it by" with a sweep, generally three times in a row, merely skimming the surface. At some convenient time the hoe follows, cutting up any large grass and weeds that may be left. Such has been my course this year, and notwithstanding the drouth (ending 12th July) I have gathered a fair crop, averaging 1½ loads to the acre. (One-third is creek bottom.) I wish Abbeville and Pry could see the "ears." My bottoms are managed a little differently. I plow twice (break up and bed) before planting, and only twice after, consequently cutting the roots still less. Such, Messrs. Editors, is the course I have tried, and such the result; yet I must candidly own the "root cutters" have made pretty good corn also, better than I expected after such a drouth, but the truth is, even they do not plow very deep. It is warm weather, you know, at the time of the last working of corn, and shallow plowing is easier both to man and beast.

On the culture of cotton I cannot be so minute. It will be sufficient to say the same views have governed my course. As, however, cotton sends down a long tap root, it is not likely to be so much injured by deep plowing as corn. By the way, I am told one of the most successful

cotton planters in this district uses the sweep exclusively when he plows that crop.

If I have seemed egotistical, Messrs. Editors, I hope your readers will excuse me. I write for plain farmers, and seek only truth. To be less egotistical would probably be, to many of them, to be less understood.

The time for a true theory of agriculture has not yet arrived (will it ever?) We want more facts, the result of careful experiment. When we have all the facts the theory generally is plain enough. The knight who saw only one side of the shield said it was silver, while he who saw only the reverse side asserted it was gold. Let our planters give their experience; let us see *both sides* fully and fairly stated. The subject is surely of sufficient importance.

I trust your useful journal will meet with the support it so well deserves, and that this subject of deep and surface culture will be ably elucidated in your next volume. It is one of general interest, and one that can be treated without technicalities, so as to be generally understood. The whole subject of plowing with reference to our soils and climate wants examination. There is, perhaps, no country in the world where so much plowing, in the culture of crops, is done as in our cotton region, and no country where lands are so soon worn out. Can nothing be done to stay this destruction of our once naturally beautiful country? If there can, our real interests call for it, humanity calls for it.

LAURENS.

*Dunlapville, S. C., Nov. 10, 1853.*

THE RICHEST MINE.—The manure applied to the soil of England amounts to three hundred millions of dollars, being more than the value of its whole foreign commerce, and yet the grateful soil yields back with interest all that is lavished upon it. And so it would be here, if we would only trust the soil with any portion of our capital. But this we rarely do. A farmer who has made any money spends it not in his business, but in some other occupation. He buys more land when he ought to buy more manure, or he puts out his money in some joint stock company, to convert sunshine in moonshine. Rely upon it, our richest mine is the barnyard, and whatever temptation stock or shares may offer, the best investment for a farmer is live stock and plow shares.





## The Farmer and Planter.

PENDLETON, S. C.

Vol. IV., No. 12. : : December, 1853.

### Our December Number.

Friends and patrons of the Farmer and Planter, the last number of volume 4 is before you. We have travelled quietly and pleasantly together for now four years, and if not inconsistent with the pleasure and interest of all parties, the Senior Editor would cheerfully continue to jog on with you through another year, but if so you *must* lighten his burthens or strengthen his loins by a due application of the *aurum unguentum*; in other words, he must have more subscribers to enable him to continue the publication of the Farmer and Planter without a sacrifice, that he feels certain they would not desire him to submit to. His former copartner has abandoned the paper because it would not pay, leaving all the *honor* and *profits* (?) with the labors and responsibilities on him who now addresses you. Shall we continue to labor for the honor alone? If so, then, friends of the Farmer and Planter, make one more effort to save your paper, let us hear from you by the first of January, shortly after which time you will receive the first number of volume 5, which we intend to commence, and with the blessing of God and your assistance to complete. We shall send the first number of volume 5 to all old subscribers who have not or do not order a discontinuance before January. We beg you to recollect this, and not allow us, if you do intend quitting, to send you one, two, three or half a dozen papers, and then refuse to take from the office or order a discontinuance without paying up arrearages, as some (we are pleased to say not many) did the present year.

We have received many encouraging letters from our old friends, but not a tithe of what we desire and expect to receive before the new volume commences. We regret much that our limited number of subscribers will not allow us to offer the liberal premiums that are given by some of our brethren of the agricultural corps. If we could boast our 20,000 subscribers, which every agricultural paper in the South should—or the best interest of the whole agricultural class—have, then we might reduce the price of our paper one-half, and give premiums besides. When will the South see her own interest, and seeing dare maintain it.

All Post Masters to whose office our papers have been, or may hereafter be sent have been requested to act as agents for the Farmer and Planter; when they cannot do so we desire some one of

our subscribers in the neighborhood of the office to consent to act as an agent and inform us accordingly, when we will publish their names as such.

We design changing the form of our paper from a quarto to that of a large octavo, for the convenience of binding and preservation, but to contain the same amount of matter as in its present form. We also desire to make other improvements, contingent on our means, however.

### There is Something in a Name.

Will our correspondents who do us the favor to write for the Farmer and Planter please to give their article an appropriate heading? When this is neglected, as it oftentimes is, we are under the necessity of supplying the deficiency, in order to make out our index, and in so doing may do violence to the subject matter of the article, according to the intention or meaning of the writer.

### Plows.

Our readers wanting plows will please notice Mr. SHERMAN's advertisement, which came too late for a notice in our last number. We have seen the "Iron Beam Plow" and were much pleased with its appearance, but have never seen one of them tested. A gentleman informs us he witnessed a trial of one of the turning plows in thick standing weeds; head high, and that it worked to the admiration of all persons present, turning in the weeds handsomely and to any desirable depth. We are also informed that the hill-side plow with one horse does better work than our informant ever saw done with a two-horse plow of any other construction. The only objection, if any, can be made to the "Rich Plow" is, that they are entirely, we think, of cast material, but it may be that the points and shears are rendered by some peculiar process more durable than is usually the case with cast plows. The points of the best turning plow we have ever used (the "Patuxent") will not last in our gravelly and sandy lands to plow two acres, and the cutting shear lasts but little longer. Any number of extra points and shears may be ordered with the plow, but at a cost of about 25 cents each, which, added to the cost of the plow, (\$3,) renders them altogether too expensive for the South. If the manufacturers would have steel points and shears substituted for the cast iron, the "Patuxent" would be every thing that could be desired in a turning plow.

A subscriber enquires whether plows, machinery and all other agricultural implements can be obtained in Hamburg, Augusta or Charleston. We can't say they can, having no advertisements from either place. Messrs. Sinclair & Co. of Baltimore can supply any thing in the line; also, seeds of every kind.

### Commission Merchants.

Our friends wanting any commission business attended to honestly and promptly will please recollect the firm of Messrs. Chambers, Jeffers & Co., and of Messrs. Holmes & Stoney (see

advertisement.) One of the former firm is our young friend, J. B. Wynne, formerly of Andersonville, and known by almost every man in our district as a man of business habits and of the strictest integrity, and one that takes pleasure in serving his friends, even without compensation. With one of the gentlemen of the latter firm (Mr. Holmes) we have the pleasure of a personal acquaintance, and hence can, with confidence, recommend him to our friends as a gentleman eminently qualified to transact any business that may be entrusted to his care, and one in whom every confidence may safely be placed. But recollect, if you go to Charleston to transact any business, we advise you to put up at the Railroad passenger depot, or in some wagon yard, as we are not authorized to say there are any other quarters provided for your accommodation. Query: Do hotel keepers suppose that editors of agricultural papers are not fond of a good dinner, or *worthy* to be invited to "accept the hospitalities" of their houses "during their stay in the city?" Or do they suppose our craft cannot write a *puff*?

### Proceedings of the Laurens Agricultural Society.

We call the attention of our readers to the proceedings of this young but promising Society, which is constituted of the right sort of materials for a society, from which we may expect much good to the country at large. We regret we have not been able to give the proceedings at an earlier date, for the reason that they were not forwarded to us by the Secretary, and we were not aware that the Farmer and Planter was requested by resolution of the Society to publish, until we saw them for the first time in the Southern Agriculturalist of October, which came to hand too late to allow us to publish in our November number. We should have taken pleasure in publishing the proceedings, even without being asked to do so, but as a resolution was passed by the Society requesting us to publish, it seems to have been clearly the duty of the Secretary to forward us a copy for that purpose. We shall take pleasure at all times in attending to the requests of our old friends of the Laurens Agricultural Society in publishing any thing emanating from its most laudable and praiseworthy efforts.

The Agricultural Society of Greenville held its anniversary meeting in the second week of October, and at the same time of the anniversary of the Pendleton Society, which prevented our attendance at the former, much to our regret. The meeting of the two Societies in adjoining districts at the same time should, and we trust will, before another year, be differently arranged, so that members disposed may have it in their power without neglecting attendance on their own Society to visit the other, for the encouragement and mutual benefit of each.

We see in a short account of the proceedings of the Greenville Society in the Patriot and Mountaineer, that these two papers, only, were, by resolution, requested to publish the proceedings. Whether the gentleman who offered the resolution knew that there was such an agricul-



tural paper in an adjoining district as the Farmer and Planter we cannot say. We can say, however, that he is no patron of that paper, and consequently if he did know, did not think proper to ask the favor. We have heretofore offered our services to the Society, but by no means desire to intrude or intrench upon the chartered rights of our highly respected brethren of the Greenville press; and believing, as we do, that in republishing from their columns we shall not by them be considered as so acting; and furthermore, having many respectable members of the Society as subscribers to the Farmer and Planter, we cannot consent to be thus staved off, but shall "take the responsibility" in our next to make the proceedings a matter of record in our humble sheet.

#### Hoven in Cattle.

A subscriber, G. O. B., of Tennessee, writes us, "Please give me a description and mode of application of the tarred band for hoven in cattle." The "tarred band" is, we believe, a rope partially stiffened by the application of tar, for the purpose of forcing down into the animal's stomach in order to let off the confined gas which is generated by rapid fermentation of green food. The rope is preferred to a wooden rod, because it is more flexible.

#### The Pendleton Farmers' Society.

We are pleased to announce to the members of this oldest Society in the State which has for a few years past been in rather a state of torpidity than otherwise, that there is evident signs of a waking up and recovery from its lethargy. It is now out of debt, in which it has been involved in consequence of building a hall (the best probably in the State) for its use, and will in future, we trust, be able to offer more liberal premiums than have recently been given. The Secretary has, since our last issue, handed us a statement of the proceedings, premiums awarded, &c., at our last anniversary, which will be found in this number. Several new members were added to the Society, and such, we think, as will be no drones. A committee has been appointed by the President to attend the meeting of the Agricultural Association of the Slaveholding States at Columbia on the first of December, (inst.) but we have not received their names. We do hope, however, they will not fail to represent our Society on that occasion, for the purpose of assisting in carrying out the important ends for which its organization has been effected.

#### Power for Saw Mills---Inquiry.

The following extract from a letter from an old friend and correspondent, although intended to be private, we publish, in order to elicit the information desired, as we are not able to give it from any experience of our own. We hope before this number goes to press to receive the proffered communication referred to, from our respected subscriber, P. Q. Being about to erect a saw mill to go by water power, we also desire light on the subject, especially as to the best water wheel (price being taken into consideration) to use. We have been informed

that Timby's wheel does good work when the water is properly applied, but that few workmen pretending to be millwrights know how to make the application, and consequently they fail to perform as they otherwise are capable of doing. They also cost, including patent, more than we are disposed to give for a wheel. There is a wheel patented by Rich, and another by Hotchkiss, probably similar in construction to Timby's, and the patent right for one or both of which has expired, as we have been informed; if so, we presume the cost will be only the weight of the castings. Can any one of our subscribers inform us? Have they had any experience in using them, and if so, what was the result? Including the old-fashioned "flutter" wheel with the above, which would you advise us to use, with a low head (say 6 feet) and plenty of water? Possibly for the reason that we have never seen a circular saw used in large timber, we feel, with our correspondent, inclined to prefer the upright saw, even with ample power for either, in the using of which is the old fashioned sash running in rabbets in the fender posts preferable to running them on castings attached to the posts? Any information that may be of advantage to either our correspondent or ourself will be thankfully received. We have published cuts in our back volumes representing some three or four horse powers, either of which may be purchased from R. Sinclair & Co., of Baltimore, probably on as good or better terms than elsewhere.—Eds. F. & P.

"MESSRS. EDITORS: 'P. Q.' on 143d page of your September number brings to my mind that I need the very information he possesses, and to me particularly needful, for I regard the upright saw as preferable, particularly where power is not in abundance. A circular saw cuts constantly, except when the log is backing, and thus a continuous power is needed, whereas with the upright saw, when cutting, only half the time power can accumulate for that time." \* \* \*

"If you know of any power that can be applied by horses, and any mode of construction that is certain beyond doubt, I would be greatly pleased to know it and the cost. I must do something. The onus is increasing.

"With much respect, yours, P."

#### Enquiries and Answers.

GREENVILLE DISTRICT, S. C., }  
October 10, 1853. }

Messes. Editors: I take the present opportunity of acknowledging my sincere thanks to you for the two almanacs, which came safe to hand. I find a good deal of very good instruction in them. I wish to know of you why the Farmer and Planter comes so irregularly. The June and September numbers have both failed to come to hand. The fault must be some-

where. It always has come regularly until now. The October number has come to hand. I wish you would please to inquire into it and see where the fault is; and if you would be so kind as to send me the missing numbers my thanks are duly yours, as I prize the volume very highly, and I would like to have it complete.

I have some enquiries to make of you, which you can answer either by private letter or through the columns of your very valuable paper concerning Bermuda Grass, as spoken of in Afleck's Rural Almanac:

1st. Do you, like Mr. Afleck, think the Bermuda grass the most valuable grass for a meadow in the South?

2d. Where can I get some of the turf (as it bears no seed) to plant a meadow of one or two acres?

3d. What will be the cost of enough of the turf to plant the amount of two acres?

4th. Which will be the most convenient way of getting it to the southern part of Greenville District?

5th? Where can I get some cuttings of the Cherokee Rose carefully packed for a hedge?

If you please, answer my ill-composed questions.

You speak, in your last number, of giving up the editorship of the Farmer and Planter. We say never, while you have as good prospects before you. The people are just beginning to feel the necessity of supporting agricultural papers. Go on, we say, and hope there are better times coming. Book farming is going ahead. We will try and do something for you in the line of subscribers.

Yours, &c., R. Y. H. TERRY.

REMARKS.—In answer to the above, we would remark, it would be a difficult task for us to undertake to find out where the fault lies that many of our papers do not reach their destination. We feel quite sure the fault does not lie at our door, or at that of our Post Office. We always have on hand a surplus number of copies of each issue, from which we can supply our subscribers who may fail to receive the first number sent, and take pleasure in doing so whenever applied to for them. That there are many screws loose in the post office machinery every publisher is well aware, but how we are to get a better qualified set of workmen is the business of the head of the department, who seems to be rather regardless than otherwise of the daily complaints of the press throughout the whole country.

Inquiries.—(1) We have had no experience with the Bermuda grass, but from the evidence of Mr. AFLECK and many other gentlemen who have written about it in the South, we have no doubt of its being a most valuable grazing grass.



Some fear it as a pest not to be got rid of, as is the case with the joint grass. We do not so regard it, however, believing it may be kept in due bounds, as it is said to mature no seed. This is unfortunately not the case with the joint grass, which produces seed in abundance, and which are certain to be distributed over the whole farm from the droppings of horses or cattle grazing on it.

(2-3) We can't say at this time where the turf can be procured nearer you than at Mr. W. L. CALHOUN'S, near Pendleton. Mr. C., we know will furnish you the turf with pleasure, on application, and without any cost.

(4) It would be best to send a one or two horse wagon for the turf, according to the quantity wanted. By checking off your land at 3 feet you will require 4840 plants to the acre, and hence you will require a weight of 1210 pounds, supposing each turf to weigh a quarter of a pound, which would be large enough, perhaps larger than necessary, if deprived of as much of the soil as might be done with safety. The second year you might divide the turf and set a bunch in the centre of each square, which would insure an earlier covering of the whole land.

(5) We can give you any quantity of the Cherokee rose cuttings, on application at our farm, near Pendleton.

In conducting the Farmer and Planter in our plain way, we are disposed to continue to serve our friends, provided they will only moderately compensate us for our outlay and services. It, therefore, rests entirely with them whether we shall do so or not. We know they are too generous to ask or require us to serve them at a sacrifice of either time or money. If we continue the paper we must have an assistant editor, which will add considerably to our expenses, but with no doubt a decided improvement in the paper, and hence our friends must give us an increased subscription list to indemnify us from loss. We believe that every subscriber we now have can, with but slight exertions, send us the name of at least one more subscriber (and most of them many more) with his own. Do this, friends, and with the protection of the great "I Am," we will jog on through another year with you, with the best disposition on our part to render our company as agreeable as many of you have done us the honor to acknowledge it to have been heretofore.

For the Farmer and Planter.  
Season, Crops, &c.

EDWARDS', Miss., Oct. 22, 1853.

Messrs. Editors: Having this portion of my sheet to spare, and as I write you of another matter, I suppose any information as to the prospects of the present crops will be interesting, especially from the Far West.

I have had more to contend against this year than ever before, not so much with the army worm, it is true, nor all together as destructive as was that pest in 1846.

Yet various difficulties have been present during the year, more than ever before.

In the first place, I could not plow, or even fence my richest and freshest lands until so late that I could not expect full crops, owing to the earth being so saturated with water. I had to plant—was compelled to plant—my thin land first, or do nothing. I therefore could not plant a seed before the 4th of April, (late for fresh land,) and that on thin upland, and could not plow and plant my rich fresh land until 17th to 21st of April. On the 27th of April we had a frost, very perceptible on upland and for miles back from the river, and enough here to injure cotton that was up, and cause a bad stand. As late as the 11th of May the thermometer was as low as 52°. I had a bad rise, and after replanting until June had an indifferent stand. I was then at times almost drowned out, and again "as dry as a powder horn," extremes during the whole year, having more rain considerably than my neighbors living 2 to 3 miles distant. I live in the fork of a large creek and the river, (Bakus creek on the map) 14 Mile creek and Big Black, in Hinds county, and usually escape great changes. In consequence I have had to work hard at times to keep my crop in proper culture, and yet my return will not be a fair yield. I do not think I can make much over six bales to the hand, whereas last year I made nine. I think I have, as last year, an abundance of supplies. The land cultivated this year is much better than usual, more choice land and less thin land. I have now gathered from my upland field, planted April 4th, over 1270 lbs., and think to make a bale per acre. Could I have planted my best and new land, from 25th March to 4th April, and then my next oldest, and so on, so that the upland would have been planted 15th of April, my crop would have been as usual. For my average, taking out 1846, the worm year, and 1850, when I had a greater increase of force than land, has been, for 15 years, 8 bales per hand. Many others are worse off than I am. Yours,

M. W. PHILIPS.

To FARMERS.—Mr. Stephenson, of Virginia, said to the farmers in a speech at the cattle show dinner recently in Springfield:

"You have not taken the stand you should in the affairs of government, while you have passed them all over into the hands of the lawyer and the politician."

For the Farmer and Planter.

October Number—Review.

The October No. is before us, and we have finished the address of Mr. King.—It is decidedly the richest thing that has been spoken or written in many a day.—We wish a copy of it could be placed on every farmer's table, for if any thing could open the eyes of those who can never look at any thing save through the spectacles of prejudice, this address would. The Analysis of the cotton plant and the sea island soil is interesting. The more one studies the analyses of soils, and compares the products of different varieties; the more thoroughly convinced must he become, that it is not the amount, so much, of different ingredients of the soil, as the well balanced proportion of them that makes a soil productive. The analysis of some of the richest bottom lands in Ohio have been found *chemically* to differ very little from the soils of Massachusetts: which reconsider almost sterile. The analysis of some cotton lands in Louisiana which produce 12 to 1500 bales per acre, proves them *chemically* to be inferior to lands we have here, that would not average 500 lbs. The condition—the texture of the soil if we may so express it—has a vast deal to do with it. The food of plants should be in a condition to be readily assimilated. The absence of one mineral may prevent the perfect solution of the proper food of the plant. The longer we live, the more satisfied we become, that there is a great deal more in the proper, thorough pulverization and deep plowing of the soil, than people generally admit. Nitrogen is one of the most important elements of plants—four-fifths of the atmosphere in which every plant lives is nitrogen, still not a particle of it goes to the support of the plant save what is carried down in the form of ammonia by rains into the soil. How much depends upon the absorptive powers of the soil then?

The "Rescue Grass."—This is an age of humbug—the world has hardly recovered from the Bermuda, Egyptian, and yellow clover fever, before a new candidate for favor eclipsing them all—the very thing of all things in the world we want—a perfect "God send" under the euphonious title of the "Rescue" is before us. The lawyers say that the most dangerous witness in the world is he who proves too much. We fear it will be so with the Rescue. Now, every body knows, it is hard to get blood out of a turnip—but here is a grass that will graze horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, hogs and poultry from November to June, which will



then yield as much hay per acre in *quantity, quality and weight*, and which is as *nutritious* as timothy, clover, or the blue grass of Kentucky!" And "it will do well in any soil, reclaim old worn out fields, &c. Now it might yield as much hay as timothy clover or Blue grass, for if our experience is worth any thing on poor worn out fields they would yield simply nothing. If the Rescue be any thing but broomsedge—if it be as rich in nutrition as clover, blue grass, or timothy—it is simply sheer nonsense to talk about its flourishing upon worn out fields and reclaiming them. Clover Hay contains:

Phos. acid.....	6.3
Sulp. ".....	2.5
Carb. ".....	25.0
Chlorine.....	2.6
Lime.....	24.6
Magnesia.....	6.3
Potass.....	25.6
Soda.....	0.5
Silica.....	5.3

Now no worn out soil can boast of these constituents, and it is vain for the grass to get them from the air, according to the present notions of scientific men. If it cannot obtain the above elements from the land or from the air, how can it reclaim a worn out old field, and how can it furnish a nutritious food for animals? If it can we give up that we are ready to subscribe to anything—to every thing—even to the Baldwin theory of the Prolific Pomegranite.

But further.—It is never injured by the greatest cold, nor the intensest heat—it is uninjured and unretarded by heavy rains, overflows or drought. It does not spread or run—it requires to be sown but once, ever afterwards reproducing itself ad infinitum. And, to cap the climax, he tells us "it is an *annual*, and the roots die in the same way as wheat or rye." Now does wheat or rye reproduce itself without cultivation—if mowed or pastured will it not soon disappear? We have never met with an annual that our native weeds and grasses would not whip out of the country in a few seasons.

The truth of the matter is, that the whole account is so capital a burlesque of the cure alls, puff panaceas, and humbugs of the day we believe it must be a Hoax—if so we have been sold and stand ready to acknowledge the corn.

"Seed Wheat.—Our impression is that the damage done by insects is much greater than by threshing, many a broken grain charged to the account of the thresher, has been consumed by an insect and

the thresher has only exposed the empty hull. Insects injurious to fruits, vegetables and field plants, are rapidly increasing amongst us, and we are fast coming to the conclusion, that it is a dangerous policy—this one of ever running after foreign seed. A distinguished writer has expressed the opinion that the annual loss in the U. S. to the planting and farming interest, from insects alone, amounts to \$20,000,000. If the bird killing mania is encouraged to what extent will it go?

"The Hog Crop."—Mr. Barnes gives us his plan of making cheap pork. We could all do a great deal better if we would try—that's certain. Where there's a will there's a way—runs an old proverb. By a judicious use of plum thickets, persimmon trees, peach and apple orchards, artichoke patches, oat and barley pastures, and the pea fields, hogs could be raised for little or nothing—*every body* knows it—still *every body* runs on the old road—cotton, cotton, and when the hog must be made fat into the corn crib they go, or to the drove.

"Measuring Corn."—In the multitude of cornsellers there is wisdom—it is written—the difficulty generally is to get at it. When all the plans are published we'll make up our mind, but we must confess to a reluctance to giving up the old notion that a 10 ft. square crib holds 100 bushels—it cuts down all our past work, and we must plant more corn.

Guano—That experiment of Mr. Lacoste is creating considerable sensation. There are pros and cons on the guano question, and doubtless much depends upon *circumstances*.

"Blight on Pear Trees."—A well timed sensible article about which we know nothing from experience. The Pear is rapidly becoming a favorite fruit at the south. It is well adapted to our climate, and there are so many varieties, that almost every body's palate may be tickled. Mr. Van Buren has a choice collection of Pears, Apples and other fruits "native and to the manor born," and offers them below the northern rates. We can assure all from our knowledge of him, that they may rely upon his honesty—and that's saying a heap in these days.

Ever yours, BROOMSEDGE.  
Big Branch, Oct. 26, '53.

For the Farmer and Planter

Dourah Corn.

MESSRS. EDITORS: I happened to be at Major Robert Maxwell's, on Cane Creek, Pickens District, when he was cutting four acres of the Dourah Corn, which is a

small grain about the size of a large grain of wheat, but is round, and grows in a bunch on top of the stalk, something similar to what is called the chicken or guinea corn. In rich land, from ten to fifteen stalks will spring up from one grain, each bearing a head, varying in size according to the age of the stalk, the season up here being too short for all the heads to come to full maturity.

Major Maxwell says the four acres he had in was very poor upland, and by cutting the stalks at the ground before frost or before it gets too hard, and saving stalks, blades and grain all together, these four acres will produce more provender or fodder than forty acres of his best land, and it is far better than any fodder or hay, and he believes for horses and mules, to cut it up all together, it is better than oats, for his experience is that they thrive better on it than any food he can give them.

It should be planted as early as a stand can be secured, drilled in rows three feet wide, some 10 or 12 inches apart in the drill, and two plowings is about as much as you will be able to give it, if you let it go to seed; but if you choose to cut it down when it gets breast high for fodder (which you may do three or four times in the season) you may have to plow it once more; It will not do to cut that which you want for seed, and if your object should be to make provender to be cut just before frost, with the head or grain on it, you ought to plant it in poor land and cultivate it well, for all you want is for it to grow high enough to cut, and the more heads you can get to come to maturity the better food it will make. If you want to cut it down several times for hay, or if you wish to gather the grain alone to grind (for I am told it makes excellent meal) it should be planted on rich land, when it will grow 16 or 18 feet high.

Major Maxwell does not think it a great exhauster of land, as he had planted twice on the same piece of poor land without manure, and succeeded very well; but I am of the opinion that any growth that is so rapid and has no tap root, when the stalk is taken off the land must be an exhauster.

I believe this is one of the best grains we have in this country, and I hope some of your readers will try it, or if they have tried it, give the result of their experience in reference to it. I have been told that in Alabama they raise from 150 to 200 bushels to the acre, and I have no doubt from my own experience one year that from 75 to 100 bushels can be raised on any of our bottom lands. Major M. says he did not like it the first year he tried it, but he says now he would not be without it, and regards it as the most reliable grain he has for stock; he has not tried it for bread. Yours,

Pendleton, S. C.

W.



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